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Weather Forecast	
Today	High:75 Low:43
Saturday	High:82 Low:53
Sunday	High:80 Low:57

FRIDAY

Fort Riley Post



Children celebrated

The month-long celebration for Child Abuse Prevention Month and Month of the Military Child began with the Kick-Off Parade at the Child Development Center.

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April 11, 2003

America's Warfighting Center

Vol. 46, No. 15



Chicago Tribune Photo/ Nuccio DiNanno

Tanker Jesus Gonzales, 2nd Battalion, 70th Armor, of El Paso, Texas, displays a photo of Saddam Hussein with a bullseye drawn on it. His tank is positioned on the northernmost part of Highway 70 south of Hillah.

Soldiers deploy, families emotional

By William Biles
Staff Writer

As one looks around Fort Riley, one can't help but notice a difference. What is that difference? The community is getting smaller due to units deploying overseas in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

In fact, last week saw a deployment ceremony for a Fort Riley unit on its way to a Central Command area of responsibility.

Soldiers from the 977th Military Police Company held their deployment ceremony April 4 at King Field House to say their goodbyes to family and loved ones.

The mood was a somber one as husbands, wives and their children embraced each other in the field house before the soldiers climbed on the bus that began their journey to their overseas destination.

The family members, as well as the soldiers, tried to stay strong and gave their support to each other.

"I believe in our soldiers and I

believe in what they are doing," said Elizabeth Healey, spouse of Staff Sgt. Eric Healey, 977th MP

See Deployment Page 4



Post/SlideShare

Spec. Christopher Mitchell and his wife, Tiffany, have a tearful goodbye.

Army Emergency Relief raising money to help soldiers

By Kim Levine
Staff Writer

Fort Riley's Army Emergency Relief will host their annual fund drive April 14 - May 13. AER is a private, nonprofit organization incorporated in 1942 to provide emergency financial assistance to soldiers. Each Army installation has an AER section, and the annual drives are held Army-wide between March and May.

Fort Riley AER's monetary goal for the drive is \$30,000 said Sgt. Maj. Larry Adams, Directorate of Community Activities. The goal this year is lower than other years because of the current deployments of Fort Riley soldiers. During the Desert Shield/Storm deployments, Fort Riley's AER drive brought in around \$12,000.

The campaign kicks off April 14 with a luncheon for the brigade and battalion commanders and project officers, and will be held at the 1st Brigade dining facility at noon, said Adams.

Unit project officers at the brigade level will be trained on how to conduct a successful drive. They will be trained how to use software to keep up with the data and print receipts for soldiers, said Adams. Project officers will also be chosen at the battalion and company levels. The company level project officers will distribute the allot-

ment forms to the soldiers.

"We encourage allotments rather than cash," said Adams, "but soldiers can contribute cash as well."

Other goals for the drive include 100 percent notification, said Adams.

"Every soldier has to be given the opportunity to donate," said Adams.

All active duty, Reserve and National Guard soldiers on duty for more than 30 days and retirees will be solicited, said Kaye Moseley, AER program coordinator.

While AER receives unsolicited donations year-round, the drive brings in the majority of the money, she said. All of the money collected goes in to a central Army-wide account.

"When you make a donation to AER, you are helping your fellow soldier, no matter where they are," said Moseley. "It doesn't just stay at one installation."

Every installation pulls from the same fund, so Fort Riley AER is not limited in the amount of money they can give out or the number of soldiers they can help. Last year, Fort Riley's AER helped 367 soldiers and dispersed over \$176,000, said Moseley. Army-wide, AER helps an average of 10.5 percent of the active force each year.

See Emergency Page 2

Second Fort Riley soldier killed

Staff Reports

The Department of Defense announced Tuesday the identity of a Fort Riley soldier killed April 5 during a hostile fire incident in Iraq.

Dead is Spec. Larry K. Brown,

22, of Jackson, Miss. Brown was assigned to Company C, 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry of the 3rd Brigade, 1st Armored Division.

Brown joined the Army on Oct. 19, 2000, and has been stationed at Fort Riley as an infantryman since April 20, 2001.

Fort Riley commanders, soldiers, civilian employees and Family Readiness Groups are providing ongoing assistance to all families of soldiers supporting the war effort and are prepared to continue around the clock assistance throughout this operation.

Civilian journalist joins Armor ranks

By Jamie Bender
Staff writer

For the last four years, Tim Potter has been covering crime and safety for the Wichita Eagle, part of the Knight Ridder newspaper group, reporting everything from homicide to tornadoes.

His beat changed a few weeks ago when he became an embedded reporter with Company B, 1st Battalion, 13th Armor.

Potter has been in the newspaper business for 22 years. He began his career as a reporter and after two years went into editing.

"I did every editing job there is, from assigning reporters to copyediting and page design," said Potter. "About nine years ago I became a reporter again."

A few months ago, Potter's edi-

tor asked him if he would be interested in becoming an embedded reporter in the event that America went to war. Potter said yes.

"We decided to become familiar with Fort Riley and try to get embedded with a unit from there, since it's a Kansas paper," said Potter.

After covering a live fire exercise in December, Potter heard about the National Training Center.

"I decided that even if I couldn't get embedded with Fort Riley, going to NTC and being with the soldiers would give me a better feel for soldier life," he said. "At that same time, I asked Fort Riley, if they had any choice in it, could I be an embedded reporter here."

Potter spent two weeks at NTC learning what it is like to be a soldier.

die. "It's been kind of a crash course," said Potter. "When you are spending 24-hours-a-day with soldiers for two weeks out in the field, you get a pretty good education. And that is just a start."

As an embedded reporter, Potter said he feels it is his job to let people know what the life of a soldier is like.

"To do that, I want to describe all the aspects of it, from the most general to the most specific, in a way that readers can visualize it," he said. "A good editor once told me, you should always show readers, not tell readers. I hope to describe things in a way that the reader can see it, writing in a way that is full of sensory details so that the reader can experience

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Helmick promoted to general

By William Biles
Staff Writer

Brig. Gen. Frank G. Helmick, commanding general, 24th Infantry Division and Fort Riley, received his first star during a promotion ceremony April 4 at Ware Parade Field.

Helmick was pinned by Lt. Gen. Thomas F. Metz, commander, III Corps and Fort Hood, and his father-in-law, Peter Laue.

Helmick was commissioned through the United States Military Academy. He earned a Master of Science in management from the United States Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, Calif.

Helmick is a graduate of the Infantry Officer Basic Course, Armor Officer Advanced Course, Armed Forces Staff College and the United States Army War College.

He has served in a variety of command and leadership positions during his time in service. Helmick has served as a platoon

leader of both a rifle and mortar platoon and company executive officer for the 1st Cavalry Division.

He commanded Company C, 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division and 3rd Battalion, 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, N.C. He also has commanded the Ranger Training Brigade, Fort Benning, Ga.

Helmick has held several staff positions from the battalion to Joint Staff level. He served as a liaison officer to the United States Forces Caribbean during Operation Urgent Fury in Grenada and as Aide to the Deputy Corps Commander, XVIII Airborne Corps.

He also served as the battalion S3 with 3rd Battalion, 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division and Battalion S3 and Executive Officer, 3rd Battalion, 325th Airborne Battalion Combat Team, Southern European Task Force, Vicenza, Italy.

After battalion command with the 82nd Airborne Division,

Helmick also served as the G3 of the 82nd Airborne Division.

His last assignment prior to being assigned as the Assistant Division Commander for Maneuver, 24th Inf. Div., was as the Chief of Operations for Anti-Terrorism in the J3 on the Joint Staff in Washington, D.C. Helmick assumed the duties as Assistant Division Commander at Fort Riley in August 2002.

Some of Helmick's awards and decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, with three oak leaf clusters, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army Superior Unit Award, Ranger Tab, Expert Infantry Badge and the Master Parachutists Badge, to name a few.

During the ceremony

See Helmick Page 6



Post/Biles

Brig. Gen. Frank Helmick, commanding general, 24th Infantry Division and Fort Riley, smiles as his father-in-law, Peter Laue, and Lt. Gen. Thomas Metz, commander, III Corps and Fort Hood, Texas, pin his star on his collar while his wife, Melissa, looks on.



Chemical training may save soldiers' lives

By Jamie Bender
Staff writer

Soldiers deploying to Central Command areas, whether reservists, guardsmen or active duty, have focused much of their training time on Nuclear, Biological and Chemical training. They must be able to don their protective masks in less than 15 seconds, know the four levels of Mission Oriented Protective Posture gear, know how to decontaminate their skin using an M258A1 decontamination kit and must take a trip through the NBC confidence course.

"The confidence course involves making sure that the soldier's mask works properly," said Staff Sgt. Claude Philippe, non-commissioned officer in charge of the NBC chamber. "We want the soldier to have confidence that he can survive in a chemical environment and have the ability to function normally."

Preparation for the NBC confidence course begins when the soldiers first fit their masks.

Staff Sgt. Donnie Critten, 3654th Maintenance Company, went through several masks before finding a good fit.

"I think I went through five dif-

ferent masks," he said. "I started with a small mask and couldn't get a seal. We finally found a medium one that did."

At the NBC confidence course, groups of 20 soldiers are first briefed by the "NCOIC" of the course. If a soldier is wearing contacts, has any deep cuts on the hands or face or if a soldier has a lung disease such as asthma, that soldier does not enter the NBC building.

After receiving the safety briefing, the soldiers are given the command "Gas!" The NCOIC counts 15 seconds while they don their protective masks.

Once the soldiers have secured and sealed their mask, they are encouraged to help the soldiers around them that may be having trouble.

The soldiers then march through the gate and line up to enter the building.

"Once inside, we do a series of exercises to make sure the mask is going to fit during your daily routine," said Spc. John Steele, 205th Medical Battalion. "It's a good reminder of how the mask works."

To demonstrate the effects the mask protects you from, the soldiers are also required to remove

the mask before leaving the CS (Chlorobenzylidenmalodinitril) filled chamber.

"It's not so bad once you have been through it a few times," said Steele. "I've been through it about six times, and it's never as bad as that first time."

The training helps soldiers know that their protective equipment will work when it is needed.

Critten said he felt that taking the time to find a good fitting mask raised his confidence for the chamber and the chamber raised his confidence in the mask.



Post/Bender

Soldiers pour out of the NBC chamber after receiving a dose of CS gas. The soldiers remove their masks while inside to get an idea of capabilities of the mask.

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Emergency continued from page 1

"AER is soldiers helping soldiers," said Moseley. "They have a very cohesive society, and soldiers can be really proud of what they have done by donating and taking care of each other."

AER gives monetary assistance in the form of interest-free loans, grants or a combination loan and grant, depending on the soldiers' ability to repay. Moseley said most of the assistance given at Fort Riley is for emergency travel and unexpected expenses.

Soldiers who need emergency financial help should go their unit commanders, who will assist them with the paperwork and process for AER, or call the AER office.

"The other goal of the drive is to focus soldier's attention and remind them that we're here in case of an emergency," said Moseley. "We want them to think of us first, as the person to go to for help if they have a financial need."

For more information on AER or the annual fund drive, call 239-9435.

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Annual Law Day celebrates independent courts, liberties

SJA Release

Law Day is an annual celebration sponsored by the American Bar Association each year on May 1 to educate the public on aspects of the law and to celebrate the freedoms the law allows. This year's theme is "Independent Courts Protect Our Liberties."

The Fort Riley Office of the Staff Judge Advocate is sponsoring several events in conjunction with Law Day. The first is a poster contest involving fifth grade students from Fort Riley schools. Attorneys from the SJA office will be speaking to fifth graders in the weeks leading up to Law Day about this year's theme. According to Capt. Colin Johnson, Law Day Officer-in-Charge, "The students will be asked to create a poster that demonstrates how courts protect our liberties."

Posters will be due on April 25 and the winners will be announced on Law Day. The overall winner will receive a \$100 savings bond and a Law Day T-shirt. The winner from each elementary school will receive a Law Day T-shirt, and all participants will receive a certificate of participation and an award for their entry.

Lawyers from the Fort Riley SJA office will also conduct a mock trial event at Fort Riley Middle School May 1, 9 a.m. Students from the eighth grade class at Fort Riley Middle School will be allowed to participate as jury members while the attorneys conduct a trial based on the facts surrounding the Titanic disaster. Johnson said, "This event will give the students the opportunity to see what lawyers do and more importantly to see how the average

citizen plays a critical role in our legal system."

Finally, SJA is sponsoring the Tenth Annual Law Day Golf Tournament at Custer Hill Golf Course.

"We are anticipating 120 participants to play in the tournament, which is a four-person scramble this year," said Johnson. "The first place four-some will receive individual trophies. Prizes will also be awarded for closest to the pin, men's and ladies' longest drive, longest putt and hole-in-one."

Johnson said he hopes that the poster contest, mock trial and golf tournament will give people an opportunity to think about Law Day and its theme, and raise awareness of the importance of an independent legal system, showing how all citizens have a place in the American legal process.

Talk Around Town

"Do you have a severe weather survival kit in your home?"



"Yes, I do have an emergency survival kit in my home. It is better to have one and not need it than to not have one and need it."



"We have one. My son had to make one for a scouting project."



"I have a survival kit. I took a class on it and decided that it was a great idea."

*1st Lt. Michael Schneider
1139th Military Police
Company*

*Staff Sgt. Kevin Roberson
1139th Military Police
Company*

*Pfc Raymond Flores
1st Battalion, 34th
Armor*

Save money at Fort Riley Tax Center

The Fort Riley Tax Center is saving soldiers money everyday. The Fort Riley Tax Center will prepare soldiers' federal and state tax returns for free, and this year, even the state returns can be electronically without a cost to the soldier.

The Fort Riley Tax Center electronically files federal income taxes for the Fort Riley community everyday.

On average, tax refunds are in the taxpayer's bank account within two weeks. You don't need to spend your tax refund on preparation fees

before you even get it. When the Fort Riley Tax Center prepares your taxes, every penny of your refund is yours.

The Fort Riley Tax Center is located on Custer Hill, building 7264, and appointments may be made by calling 239-1040. New operating hours are in effect for the Tax Center because of the summer PT schedule. The center will be open Monday - Wednesday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.



U.S. Air Force photo by Shane A. Cuomo

A UH60 helicopter crew from the 82nd Medical Company, 82nd Airborne Division, prepares to lift off for a mission April 4 while another helicopter comes back from a mission at a forward deployed location in Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

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Deployment

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Co. "The hardest part is that the kids don't understand what is going on right now, but I feel the unit will take care of us while he is gone. They have a good Family Readiness Group which has been working really hard for us."

The soldiers may have been sad due to having to say goodbye, but there was a strong confidence among them for their mission ahead.

"The hardest part is having to say goodbye to loved ones," said Capt. Dan Lorenzen, commander, 977th MP Co. "I will tell you, the Army's best MP Company is prepared and ready to deploy and will do a great job and will rise to the occasion."

Although the soldiers are worried about their families during their separation, they take comfort in knowing they

are leaving them in good hands.

"There was some doubt at first, but now I know the 977th's FRG will be there for my family, as my family will be there for the FRG," said Pfc. Nicholas Graham, 977th MP Co.

The deployment was felt at all of the levels within the 924th Military Police Battalion.

"The hardest thing for this battalion is

that the rest of its soldiers are watching them leave and it's hard to see the families and how hard it is on them," said Lt. Col. Pamela Martis, commander, 924th MP Bn.

"This deployment also gives the families some closure, instead of them wondering when their spouses are leaving. And, they (families) know they are sending their folks off to do their job in ser-

vice of their country," she said.

The families can take comfort in the knowledge there will be rear detachment commanders, along with the FRG, to pass along information as the unit receives it, Martis said. "They also have chain-of-concern phone numbers they can call if difficulties arise, and the unit will provide assistance to them," she said.

Journalist

continued from page 1

what happened."

Potter said he expects to write a wide range of stories, from profiles of individual soldiers to breaking news about actions that the unit may be involved in.

Since coming to Fort Riley, Potter has written stories about things like training the soldiers have been doing as well as other aspects of military life.

"We had a drill on how to handle [Prisoners of War]," he said. "I wrote a story about that and its just a little slice of what they do. Yesterday I wrote a short story on the U.S. Medical card, also known as the toe tag. Its kind of a sobering aspect of being a soldier, but its also important if a soldier is wounded. Its a way of getting them good medical care."

Potter will send his articles back home via a laptop computer connected to a satellite phone. He will also be taking digital pictures that will be transmitted the same way.

"I hope to write a story a day," said Potter. "It may be a very brief story; a slice of life story — Something that happened that day that's telling about the life of the soldiers. It could be very serious, or it may be humorous. I hope it's humorous. I'm going to try to cover all aspects, so the stories don't sound alike."

Potter went through training in preparation for his deployment with 1st Bn., 13th Armor.

"I have been through some training with the unit about how to use the Nuclear, Biological and Chemical gear," said Potter. "I also spent a week training in Virginia in January. It's a course that Knight Ridder requires for all reporters working overseas. Its called hostile environment training."

The week-long course is taught by a group of retired British Royal Marines and covers things such as first aid and how to avoid mines, said Potter.

"It also covers how to handle a situation where you may be taken as a hostage to surviving in harsh weather conditions and in primitive areas. It covers a lot of survival techniques," he added.

Potter is not an Army reporter. He is not a Department of Army Civilian, and he does not work for Army Public Affairs.

"I can't be a public relations person for the Army," said Potter.

"That's not my job. But I know I can be fair. I think that by being immersed in what this unit does, that should give me a better chance of accurately portraying what the unit does."

Potter said that critics of the embedding program feel as if the embedded reporters will end up being cheerleaders for their units.

"I am sensitive to that," he said. "I don't want to be looked at that way because I wouldn't be credible with the readers. But, by the same token, I think there is a lot of mutual respect. I respect the soldiers and I think they respect me. Its hard not to be empathetic when you are basically living with someone 24-hours-a-day. I can keep an emotional distance, but it's a closer relationship than normal reporting."

Potter has dealt with different challenges since becoming embedded.

"If you're around soldiers and you are trying to watch them and listen to them, it's a long day," he said. "It's tiring. I'm one of those people who is used to getting eight hours of uninterrupted sleep

a night, so physically that's probably the toughest thing for me. But, I have learned that you can adapt to it and catch snatches of sleep when you can."

Waiting to leave has been frustrating for Potter as well.

"I realize it's something totally beyond my control, so it's a waste of energy to be frustrated," he said. "But nevertheless, I'm a journalist, and there is a major story going on overseas, and even though I know I'm eventually going to get there, I know I have missed part of it already."

There is a positive side to the waiting.

"The flip side of that is that since I have gotten to spend extra time with these guys before they deploy, I feel like I'm getting familiar with them and they are getting familiar with me," said Potter. "It's kind of unusual because, as a journalist, you don't often get to spend that much time concentrating on one issue."

Having Potter around is unusual for the soldiers as well. "People have been very friendly and are very accepting of me

being around," said Potter. "I appreciate that because I realize that it could be a distraction. These guys aren't used to having a guy with a note pad around listening to them. I think they have become comfortable with me and we have both adapted to each other."

While he has been at Fort Riley, Potter has been living in the barracks with other soldiers in 1st Bn., 13th Armor.

"I'm trying to absorb it all, and what better way to get to know young soldiers than live in a barracks with them," said Potter. "I have a room to myself and I realize that's kind of a luxury. I wanted to be in the barracks because I felt like that would make it easier for me to talk to soldiers. Plus, I think when you're living in the field, commanders and soldiers alike share a lot of the same harsh conditions. I remind myself that

the barracks will be like the Taj Mahal compared to the conditions we'll face in a Central Command area of responsibility."

Being able to report from outside an office is an advantage to being embedded that Potter enjoys.

"It's nice to be really close to a story and to be able to write about soldiers at arm's length," he said.

"To me, they are real people. I appreciate not having to write stories from an office. I like to go out to places and see what I'm writing about."

Potter said he has some mixed feelings about the possibility of seeing combat.

"On one hand, I hope these soldiers don't see combat because you don't want to see anybody hurt," he explained. "But, my philosophy as a reporter is, you have

to be willing to cope with difficult and stressful situations and still write stories that will inform people. It sounds kind of cliché, but this is history. Whether somebody agrees with the war or not, it's happening and it's history, and as a reporter, I want to be there to help document it. I'm very sober about the idea of seeing killing. I think you can't underestimate the difficulty of being able to distance yourself enough from it so you can accurately and objectively report on it. Still you're a human being, and you are going to see things that are shocking and that you'll never forget."

Editor's Note: Tim Potter departed Fort Riley with 1st Bn., 13th Armor last weekend.

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Briefs

Easter Sunrise Service

The Fort Riley Easter Sunrise Service will be held April 20, 6:30 - 7:30 a.m. at the Fort Riley Outdoor Chapel. The service will be open to the community, and a breakfast will be served immediately following the service. In case of inclement weather, the event will be held at Morris Hill Chapel. For more information, call 239-3359.

Girl Scouts

The Fort Riley Girl Scouts will be holding a Spring Dance/Registration for scout year 2003-2004 on May 1, 6 - 7 p.m., at Rally Point. The cost of registration is \$10. If girls are currently with a troop, they will fill out the registration form and pay the \$10 fee to their troop leader. The troop leader will give them a pass to enter the dance. For more information, call 210-1208.

Pre-retirement Orientation

The semi-annual Pre-Retirement Orientation will be conducted May 9, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., with registration starting at 7:30 a.m. at Barlow Theater, building 7866. The orientation is for individuals who have submitted their request for retirement, however, any soldier contemplating retirement in the near future is welcome to attend. Spouses of retiring personnel and prospective retirees are invited and encouraged to attend. This orientation is a requirement IAW AR 600-8-7 and soldiers may attend as many times as they wish. For further information, contact the Retirement Services office, building 210, or call 239-3320 or 239-3667.

Easter Egg Hunt

DCA/MWR will team together with a local fast food restaurant on April 19 for the annual Easter Egg Hunt and Carnival. This free activity will take place from noon to 3 p.m. at the Fort Riley Burger King on Custer Hill. The event will feature over 2,000 eggs, a Moonwalk, sack races and ring-toss event.

Toddlers up to 4 years old will begin hunting eggs at 1:10 p.m. (toddlers must be able to walk unattended), followed by 5 to 7 year-olds beginning at 1:30 p.m. and finally 8-11 year-olds at 1:50 p.m. Call 239-9354.

Claims Office Hours

The Fort Riley Claims Office, located in Patton Hall, room 106, has new hours. The Claims Office will still offer services through the lunch hour. Claimants may turn in their DD Form 1840/1840R (pink sheet), for their Household Goods claims, on a walk-in basis. Although the Claims Office is closed on Thursdays for training, if 70 days have already elapsed since the date of delivery, they will accept your pink sheet then as well. Claims packets may also be picked up from the office on a walk-in basis. Claimants must make an appointment if they wish to submit their claims. The new hours are 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday through Wednesday, and Friday.

Office Closure

Vehicle Registration will be closed today, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. for a Hale and Farewell ceremony.

Security Manager's Course

The Director of Security is sponsoring a S-2 / Security Manager's Course. The course will provide valuable information to both new and current security personnel. The classes will be held May 5 and 6, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., at the CPAC, building 319, classroom 2A and 2B. Classes on Personnel Security, Information Security, Intelligence Support to Force Protection, Physical Security, COMSEC and ADP Security will be taught. Instructors include DSEC, PMO and DOIM personnel. To register, call Harry Sturdivant, 239-6322, or e-mail, harold.sturdivant@riley.army.mil

Prenatal Classes

The Women Infant Care Center of Irwin Army Community Hospital will be offering prenatal classes

es on April 19, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., 3rd floor classroom. Expectant mothers, between their 12th and 40th week of pregnancy are eligible to attend. The prenatal classes will continue to be held on the third Saturday of every month at IACH. For more information, call Maj. Susanna Itara, 239-7434. To register for prenatal classes, call the Fort Riley TRI-CARE Service Center, 784-1200 or toll free, 1-888-874-9378.

Marriage Class

Want to make a good marriage better? Come to the monthly Marriage Enrichment Class on April 26, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Soldier and Family Support Center. Register by April 24, by calling 239-3436. Presented by Chaplain (Maj.) Paulson, the Fort Riley Family Life Chaplain.

Jewish Passover

The Passover will be observed from sundown Wednesday through sunset April 24. During the observance, Wednesday, Thursday, and April 23 and 24 are days of religious obligation for personnel of the Jewish faith. Jewish soldiers should be granted leave whenever possible to ensure maximum observance. On April 18, there will be a celebration of

Passover. There will be a Seder meal following the Friday night service. The service starts at 6 p.m. at Normandy Chapel. Any members of the community who would like to participate are welcome. Reservations are recommended so there will be Matzah balls. Call 461-5804 or 223-7576 to make a reservation.

Post Wide Yard Sale

The Post Wide Yard Sale will be April 26, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Thrift Shop

It is Spring cleaning time and the Fort Riley Thrift Shop wants to help you clear out your clutter! Call the Thrift Shop to come and pick up your donations (in good condition). Visit the Thrift Shop

in building 267, Stuart Ave., 784-3874. Hours of operation are 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. on the first Saturday of each month. The Thrift Shop is looking for people to be on the board for next year. Call 784-2351.

The Shoppe

Freshen up your home with something new from The Shoppe! The Shoppe has many new ideas for Easter. The Shoppe is located in building 259, Stuart Ave., 239-2783. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Tuesday - Saturday.

Mail Training

An Introduction to Unit Mailroom Operations class will be offered on Wednesday, 8 a.m. -

3:30 p.m. at building 319. Pre-enrollment is required. Call 239-5411 to enroll.

Tobacco Cessation

Community Health Nursing of Irwin Army Community Hospital offers free Tobacco Cessation classes. This is a four-week program, which meets once a week and is run by trained medical professionals. Participants may choose to quit smoking without medication or healthcare providers may prescribe Zyban. Nicotine patches are also offered during the class. Military service-members, their families and DoD civilians are eligible to participate. To register, call Community Health Nursing at 239-7323.

Special Weekend

The Manhattan Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring, "We support our Troops Weekend," April 12-13. Call the Manhattan Chamber of Commerce at 785-776-8829 for more information, or go to their website at www.manhattan.org.

Easter Lunch

The 1st Brigade Dining Facility is hosting an Easter celebration meal April 16 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for all ID cardholders. The lunch, at a cost of \$3.25, will feature bone in ham, steamship round, glazed Cornish hen, lobster tail, shrimp scampi and plenty of side dishes and deserts.

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Korea 50 years ago -- Reds, U.N. forces begin prisoner exchange

By Jim Caldwell
Army News Service

Despite months of off-and-on-again truce talks, the communist and U.N. teams finally reached an agreement to exchange sick and wounded prisoners of war, 50 years ago this week.

April 10, 1953 — Peking radio claims that Capt. Harold Fischer was captured after he bailed out of his damaged F-86 over North Korea April 7. Fischer is an ace with 10 MiG-15s shot down.

The Sixth Army in San Francisco reports that 2,000 soldiers captured after going absent without leave have been assigned to the Far East. It's the Army's policy to ship soldiers to the Far East after they go AWOL to keep from going overseas.

April 10-13 — In ground fighting Republic of Korea troops and Chinese forces continue to fight over Texas Hill on the east-central front. The Reds take the hill April 10, but the South Koreans counterattack and win it back on April 13. That ends the fighting for the

time being.

April 11 — Negotiations on the exchange of sick and wounded POWs between the communist and U.N. teams at Panmunjom result in an agreement. The Reds have slightly increased the numbers of sick and wounded U.N. POWs they will exchange for their soldiers imprisoned by the U.N. forces from 600 to 605.

Both sides now have 10 days in which to bring prisoners they hold to Panmunjom to be exchanged.

Among the U.N. POWs to be returned are 450 South Koreans, 120 Americans, 20 British and 15 from the other allied countries fighting in Korea. The communists also request that both sides return to armistice talks. North Korean Lt. Gen. Nam Il, the Reds' chief truce negotiator, has already sent a letter to the United Nations in which the communists explain how they will handle the issue of U.N. prisoners who do not want to be repatriated. He said these POWs "who are filled with apprehension and are afraid to return home as a result of having been

subjected to intimidation and oppression should be handed over to a neutral state" where the communists will provide "explanations" so the former POWs will be "gradually freed from apprehensions."

Nam's letter is viewed as the communists' attempt to save face. They can treat such arrangements as logistics details that will eventually result in those prisoners eventually being returned to them. They do not want to admit to the world that people are rejecting their harsh and cruel regimes. The United Nations does not reply right away.

April 11-13 — Allied air forces attack targets throughout North Korea during the week. F-86 Super Sabre pilots shoot down three MiG-15s in dogfights over the North on April 11, and destroy seven more April 12. B-29s bomb rail yards around Panmunjom

April 13.

The battleship New Jersey works with 75 Navy planes to bombard shore targets on the northeast coast of North Korea from Wonsan to Chongjin.

The French Army in Vietnam says it is preparing to meet 40,000 Viet Minh rebels to keep them from invading the kingdom

of Laos. The Laotian government on April 13 orders men 18-25 years old to report for military service to repel an invasion.

Viet Minh radio broadcasts on April 13, which is New Year's Day in Laos and Cambodia, that its troops will "create a revolution" that will result in the union of Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos.

April 12 — The Defense Department reports that Americans and other POWs released by the Reds may "appear to have

succumbed" to the communist viewpoint. The spokesman said prisoners have been subjected to "brainwashing," which consisted of being forced to undergo "unrelenting arguments, distorted and selected information and various inducements to accept or at least repeat many elements of communist propaganda."

The Army says it has a program that will help released Americans readjust and discard communist ideas drilled into them. Nationalist China's defense minister reports that part of its naval forces sunk two Red Chinese gunboats off Chekiang April 6. It's the first reported clash between the Nationalists and Reds since President Dwight Eisenhower stopped U.S. Navy patrols to prevent the Formosan government from attacking the Chinese mainland.

April 14-15 — The Reds begin moving allied prisoners from camps near Manchuria to Panmunjom April 14 in a 65-vehicle convoy. As long as the convoy stays on an agreed-upon route,

allied aircraft will not attack the convoy.

The next day U.N. troops begin moving 769 enemy POWs from Cheju Island to Pusan, from where they will be taken to the U.S. negotiating team facilities at Munsan. About 745 of the POWs stage a sit-down strike, refusing to leave the landing ship. They scream insults at everyone for two hours and insist they will not go to the hospital in Pusan until it has been inspected. Then troops equipped to deal with prison riots arrive and board the landing ship and get the POWs off.

April 15 — The Defense Department reports that the 133,463 American casualties in Korea include 23,694 dead as of April 10.

April 16 — U.S. Air Force pilots report that there is heavy military traffic in North Korea on the route reserved for transporting U.N. sick and injured prisoners.

When they go lower to see if the prisoner convoy is among the traffic, they're driven off by intense anti-aircraft fire.

Helmick continued from page 1

Helmick's wife, Melissa, presented a basket of carrots to the horses of the Fort Riley Honor Guard in appreciation of their support of Fort Riley.

To signal the start of the promotion ceremony, soldiers from Battery C, 4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery, prepared and fired a replica of a Civil War Era, 1855 Model, 3-inch Ordnance Cannon.

After Retreat was played and the Garrison Flag lowered, Helmick received his promotion as the orders were read.

Once Helmick received his star, Command Sgt. Maj. Richard Hearron, 24th Infantry Division and Fort Riley, uncased the Brigadier General Officer Flag that

will be displayed outside of building 500 when Helmick is present.

After the flag was unfurled, Honors were rendered to the Army's newest Brigadier General as a cannon salute was performed in his honor.

After the cannon salute, Helmick was presented with a canister that represented the first round fired.

Metz then said a few words about the man of the hour.

He touched on some of Helmick's accomplishments throughout his career and said how he is another highlight on Fort Riley and its community.

"He has really shown true profession-

alism, and I can understand why the Army has picked him to be a general officer," said Metz.

Metz also thanked Helmick's wife for her commitment and the support she has given to her husband.

To describe Frank Helmick, you need to use verbs, because he is a man of action. He understands the leadership initiative and he is a go-to-guy, said Metz.

When Metz finished his words, he introduced Helmick to speak to those in attendance.

Helmick thanked everyone who attended the ceremony and said how proud he felt for the honor bestowed on

him. He also showed a humble side of himself.

During his speech, he told a story about his pride. He said on the way back from picking up family members, earlier in the day, they had to stop at a gas station for fuel.

Helmick said he noticed the attendant had kissed his wife on the cheek. When he asked her about the incident, when they were back in the car, she had told him that it was an old friend from school that she had dated.

Helmick's reply was, "Gee honey, aren't you glad you married me?"

"Here I am about to be a brigadier

general. That's a big deal, and you're pretty fortunate."

He said he told her that if she had married the other guy she would be married to a gas station attendant.

Her reply to him was, "You have it all wrong. If I married him, he would be the one getting promoted to brigadier general, and you would be the one pumping gas."

Helmick said he agreed and that he realized how blessed with family he is.

After all of the thank yous were said, the ceremony concluded with a receiving line to congratulate the Helmicks, which was followed by refreshments.

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6:30 a.m. In Step
8 a.m. In Step
Noon In Step
6 p.m. In Step
10 p.m. In Step

Fort Riley Community



April 11, 2003

America's Warfighting Center

Page 7

Post events celebrate children

By Michael Watson
Staff writer

Child abuse and neglect exist within every community. The Army is not immune or exempt, said Carolyn Tolliver-Lee, social services representative at the Family Advocacy Program.

"Many children — a countless number of children — are abused. And all of those children deserve to be loved and cared for," she said. "That's why we take this time to recognize Child Abuse Prevention Month and Month of the Military Child."

This year's slogan is Our Country, Our Children, Protecting Them Both.

The month-long celebration began with the Kick-Off Parade at the Child Development Center on April 3, and many other events followed to foster good parenting skills and to strengthen the bond between parent and child.

"Parenting is not easy," Tolliver-Lee said. "The military recognizes that. The primary goal of these programs is to promote the well being of families. We want to prevent child abuse and family violence."

Spec. Michael Labadie, Headquarters and Headquarters Company 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, walked in the parade on April 3 with his wife, Heather, and his son, Michael, 4, who carried a baton with red, white and blue streamers in the parade.

"It is very important that parents and children are together," he said. "You can't spend too much time with family, and events like the parade give soldiers the opportunity to do more with family."

Labadie said he agrees that some children are neglected, because soldiers do not always have a lot of time to spend with their children. These events focus on that importance, and helps parents get closer to their children.

The biggest reason why raising children in the Army is especially difficult is because the parents and children are often away from the extended family, Tolliver-Lee said. If families need help, there are fewer people to turn to.

At Fort Riley, she said young children are being mistreated, and sometimes their parents do not even realize it is happening. During deployments, raising children can be especially difficult. However, she said there is no excuse

See Children Page 8



Trevor Rankin, Toby Lubkeman, Jaden Calderon and Justin Casteel ride in a wagon during the Child Abuse Prevention Month and Month of the Military Child kickoff parade.



Parents, Sgt. Talesh Nelson and Sgt. 1st Class Douglas Nelson, walk along the parade route on April 3 with their daughter, Destiny.

Spring Bazaar raises money for Community Assistance Fund

By Jamie Bender
Staff writer

The Officers' and Civilians' Spouses Club held its annual Spring Bazaar last weekend at Fort Riley Middle School.

This is the 20th year the spring event has been held.

The bazaar raises funds for the Community Assistance Fund, which gives financial support to local organizations that support the military.

Last year, the bazaar raised about \$7,000, said Lisa Skinner, 2nd Vice President, OCSC. "We are hoping to raise about \$12,000 this year," she said. "We have changed the prices of the booths to be more comparable to other craft fairs in the area."

The bazaar was held at Fort

Riley Middle School. Vendors had

booths in both gyms, the cafeteria and on the stage at the school.

Normally held at Hanger 1817 which was unavailable this year, the event usually hosted 100 booths.

"We had to cut down on the number of booths this year because of space," said Skinner.

Sheila Steenboch



Ben Haddox and Raymond Coulter check out the engine of a car on display at the OCSC Spring Bazaar and Car Show.

manned the

Kansas, by

De s i g n

booth.

"We

have been

part of the

bazaar for

about five

years now,"

she said. "I

liked being

in the h a n g a r

because we

were all

together and

there was

much more

room."

Kimberly

Nickerson

attended this year's

bazaar.

"I am shopping for kid stuff

today," said Nickerson. "I like

what I see so far," she said.

The bazaar also included a car

show with six categories of com-

petition.

Trophies were awarded to clas-

sic, vintage, modern custom, mus-

cle cars, and imports.

"I think the car show is awe-

some," said Elijah Muhammad,

whose 2004 Focus was entered in

the import category.

Muhammad thought there

should have been a better turn out

though. "There should be more of

them since we have many car

clubs on post."

Vendors from Kansas, Ken-

tucky, Illinois, Missouri, Nebras-

ka, Oklahoma, Texas and South

Dakota attended this year's

bazaar.



Kimberly Nickerson samples some jams offered by Jim Gunn who manned a booth at the OCSC Spring Bazaar.

ABC's of Alzheimer's group offers support

Staff Reports

The ABC's of Alzheimer's, a free course for family members, caregivers and friends of persons with Alzheimer's disease or related disorders, will be held April 22 and 29 and May 6.

The April 22 session will be held at the Pozee Education Center, 1505 SW 8th Street, Topeka, at 6 p.m.

The session will begin with an overview of the disease and then the topic "Care and Consideration of the Patient" will be presented at 7:30 p.m.

The April 29 session will also be held at the Pozee Center. The session will begin at 6 p.m. with a description of community

resources available to help Alzheimer's families. From 7 - 9 p.m., a panel of caregivers will be sharing their stories.

The May 6 session on legal and financial issues will be held at the Topeka office, 515 South Kansas Ave., from 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. The session will begin with a discussion on the complex division of assets law, also known as the spousal impoverishment law.

From 7 - 8:30 p.m., participants will discuss powers of attorney, guardianship, living wills and other legal matters that Alzheimer's families should attend to early in the disease process.

See Support Page 8

Program offers assistance for healthy eating

By Michael Watson
Staff writer

Raising a healthy family is not always easy.

Soldier spouse Lori Rew said she knows this all too well. Her daughter Maria was born premature, and now that she is 2 and a half years old, she is still underweight and shorter than other children her age.

Keeping Maria healthy can be very expensive, Rew said. Thankfully, the Women, Infants and Children Program provides vouchers to ease the cost of nutritious foods.

"We go through a lot of milk and a lot of cereal to keep Maria healthy," Rew said. "I do whatever it takes to make sure she gets the nutritious foods she needs, but this program makes it a lot easier."

Rew and other clients pick up their vouchers once every two months to pay for milk, cheese, infant formula, juice and other health-related goods. The vouchers are accepted at any supermarket.

To qualify, the pregnant women, new mothers or children less

than five years old, must meet certain income guidelines and be determined by WIC staff to have a medical or nutritional need.

There are approximately 1,800 clients at Fort Riley, said Barb Herrman, WIC coordinator. However, there are more women and children who are eligible than who actually apply.

Those at Fort Riley interested in the program should call 239-5730 or stop by the WIC office, building 7264. Herrman said there is nothing wrong with needing help, because eating healthy is not easy or inexpensive.

"It is a wonderful program, and over the years it has really proved its efficiency and benefits," she said. "Other than the financial help provided by extending the family's food dollars, the program helps with nutritional guidelines by recommending the healthy foods they should be eating."

Childhood obesity is a big topic right now, she said, so WIC gives mothers information about how to take care of their children with good eating practices.

"The health of children depends on healthy living of the mother," she said. "If mothers cannot take care of their children or themselves with nutritious foods, they should get help from WIC."

Healthy living is too important to ignore, she said.

Families say goodbye to deploying troops

Children continued from page 7

By Michael Watson
Staff writer

Soldier camouflage could not hide the tears shed at the 977th Military Police deployment ceremony on April 4.

Sgt. Steve Bingley said the last few days with his family were difficult, but the morning of his deployment was the worst. He sat with his wife, Heather, and 3-month-old daughter, Jordan, in King Field House during their final moments together before his departure. At one point, he said he had kissed Jordan 79 times, but that count went up with each passing second.

"Getting ready to leave my family has been tough," he said. "There has been a lot of crying, and a lot of running around to pay bills. We've tried to plan for this goodbye, but try all you want, you cannot plan for a goodbye like this. You lead a regular life, and then the next thing you know, you won't see your family tomorrow."

Bingley said he has known for four months that he would be leaving for the Central Command area of responsibility. He just did not know when. But, he hoped it would be after his baby was born.

His wish came true, and he did get to spend three months with Jordan before leaving Fort Riley on a deployment. He said it was not enough time, but he promised her that he would return, still kissing her on the forehead.

He said he feels lucky to have gotten to spend time with his daughter, because there are many soldiers with pregnant wives that



Staff Sgt. Eric Healey, 977th Military Police Company, hugs his children, Lexington, Gracie and Lenal, and his wife, Elizabeth. The families of the 977th MP Co. said their good-byes during a deployment ceremony at King Field House.

are due after the unit is deployed.

Heather said she would be taking care of the baby and making sure all the bills are paid while her husband is away. While Steve has been deployed before, she said she is more worried this time around.

"This deployment scares me more because we have a newborn baby, and I want her to have her daddy," Heather said. "And, this time is different because we knew he wouldn't be gone as long before, but we do not know how

long he will be away this time."

She said she just wants him to complete his mission and return home.

Dobie Biggs was also emotional at the ceremony, hugging and kissing her new husband Spc. Charles Biggs. The couple has been married since December.

She said she does not want him to leave, but she understands that he has a job to do as a soldier. This is also not the first deployment that the couple has been through, and like Heather Bingley, Dobie also feels different this time around.

"When (Charles) was in Korea, he would call and say he was having fun and enjoying himself," she said.

"There was never really any threat. I won't get to talk to him every day now, and I won't even be sure that he is safe."

However, she said she would not worry unless a long period of time goes by without hearing from him.

When Charles was in Korea, she relied on her family for support. This time, she plans to rely on her friends and Army family at Fort Riley.

"This deployment has been much more emotional, because we are newlyweds and I don't want him to leave," Dobie said. "But I understand that they are going to keep peace."

for not taking care of the children properly.

"Perpetrators who abuse children sometimes just cross the line and feel stress," she said. "Stress might explain abuse, but it does not excuse it."

She said the goal of these events is to bring families together and help them realize that children need attention during difficult times. The goal is to reinforce and establish positive family interaction.

"The more parents are educated about prevention and identification of abuse and neglect, the better of our military families will be," Tolliver-Lee said.

Support continued from page 7

Pizza and soft drinks will be offered at the May 6 session, and dessert and drinks will be offered on April 22 and 29.

While there is no charge for the course, but reservations are required.

Alzheimer's support group meetings will also be held in Manhattan on April 14, 11:45

a.m., at the Riley Co. Seniors Center, 412 Leavenworth, and in Junction City April 15, 9:30 a.m., at the Country Kitchen, 416 Golden Belt Blvd.

For more information or to register for the course, call the Topeka office of the Alzheimer's Association at (785) 234-2523.

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HORTICULTURAL SERVICES
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REX'S ROADHOUSE
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Black Only
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COTTONWOOD THEATERS
1 x 3"
Black Only
1x3 April Running

SEABY COUNTY HEAD START
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Black Only
enrollment

USA DISCOUNTERS
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BRIGGS



Fort Riley Sports

April 11, 2003

America's Warfighting Center

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Field artillery team wins first game of 2003 season



Donald Heaton, 24th Infantry Division, attempts to steal the ball from a 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery attacker during a Fort Riley battalion level soccer game.

By William Biles
Staff Writer

The 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery's Steel Rain defeated Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 24th Infantry Division, 3-0, during a Fort Riley Battalion Level Soccer League game April 3. The game marked the beginning of the season for both teams.

The game pitted a young 24th Inf. Div. team against an experienced field artillery team that won last year's soccer championship.

The infantry team showed potential to be one of the league's front-runners for this season.

"We're a good team," said Michael Searcy, 24th Inf. Div.

If the team can stay together, having the same guys every week playing, and if those guys can make it to the scheduled practices, then we will be a hard team to beat, said Ronald Wright, coach, 24th Inf. Div.

The first half of the game went scoreless, as the HHC team's defense was put to the test while the Steel Rain team occupied their side of the field for most of the half.

"It looks like this game is going to be a battle of their

offense against our defense, since they have had five shots on goal to our one," said Donald Heaton, 24th Inf. Div.

One of the key advantages the field artillery team had over the infantry team was constant communication, not only between the players on the field, but from the side line, too.

"A big plus is the fact that the team is communicating well with

"We have them worn down from the first half, and I know they are ready to just quit right now."

—Jerry Downes
Coach
1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery

each other while on the field," said Jerry Downes, coach, 1st Bn., 5th FA. Downes was also in communication with the players on the field. He was constantly directing the plays as they would unfold and was able to insert "fresh legs" when he noticed one of his players was slowing down due to fatigue.

The games first score came early in the second half when Steel Rain's Miguel Pinada burned the ball in the back of the net.

Pinada was able to capitalize from a rebound off the crossbar from a field artillery free kick.

Ian Mason, 1st Bn., 5th FA, scored the second goal of the game when he was able to break through the firing HHC defense and managed to put the ball behind HHC's Searcy as he dove for the ball.

"We have them worn down from the first half, and I know they are ready to just quit right now," said Downes.

Alvero Melendez, 1st Bn., 5th FA., scored the third goal after his team was able to maneuver the ball down the field using a series of short passes, mixed with controlled ball dribbling while sprinting down the sideline.

After the conclusion of the game, the HHC team held an After Action Review. The members of the team discussed their weak points as well as their strong points. They put a strong emphasis on their need to have all of the team present at their practices in order to work on their game.

"If we only have four or five people showing up for practice, and then when it comes to game time, 10 or 11 people show up. That's just not going to work, said Wright. "All of us need to show support for the team."

Protect your dog from Parvo with vaccination

By Michael Watson
Staff writer

Once Parvovirus infects a dog, it is very hard to nurture it back to health.

Lori Rev discovered that firsthand when her dog contracted a touch of Parvo, a virus that attacks and kills dividing cells in a dog's body.

Her dog had received the vaccinations, but it still got sick. After that, the only thing she could do was keep her dog clean and comfortable while the virus ran its course of high fever, lethargy, severe diarrhea and vomiting.

While her dog lived, she said most dogs do not recover. She said she has also seen the deadly effects, when her neighbors' two dogs contracted the virus.

"I was there and watched one of the puppies die," she said. "It was horrible, and there is really nothing you can do once the Parvo starts. There are a lot of people who have dogs with Parvo, and it can kill the little family member."

Capt. Michael Hansen, Fort Riley Veterinary Services, said he considers parvo to be a problem in many housing areas at Fort Riley.

"If people let their dogs run around in the

neighborhoods here, there is a good chance they will be exposed," he said. "Fort Riley has a particularly bad strain."

Parvo is highly contagious to unvaccinated dogs, and the virus can remain infectious in ground contamination for months.



Because the virus is difficult to kill, Hansen said he couldn't stress enough the importance of vaccinations.

He said 99 percent of deaths from parvo could have been prevented had the animal received the recommended series of vacci-

nations. He said vaccinations should begin for puppies at six weeks, and more shots should be given at nine, 12 and 16 weeks.

"You have to start early because if they don't get coverage, they are more susceptible to Parvo," Hansen said. "One or two vaccinations is not enough—dogs need the series."

While in private practice, he said only 50 percent of dogs he hospitalized for Parvo survived. If the dog is left at home, the survival rate is a lot lower.

To help prevent the spread of parvo, he said people should keep infected dogs isolated from other dogs, clean up the dog's stools in the yard, keep the animal's basket clean and get them vaccinated.

Several vaccinations are needed because it is difficult to successfully vaccinate a puppy for the disease. This is because the antibody protection the puppy acquires from its mother can interfere with the vaccine, Hansen said. After the initial series, the animals should also receive annual boosters.

"I can't stress enough the importance of these vaccinations," he said. "They are 100 times cheaper and easier than trying to nurse a dying pet back to health, and the risk to the animal is minimal."

Black Knights' lacrosse coach makes history

By Jim Zuhke
Army News Service

Army lacrosse coach Jack Emmer made history April 1 with a 17-1 victory over visiting Lehigh. With the win, Emmer surpassed former Massachusetts head coach Dick Garber to become the all-time winningest lacrosse coach at the Division I level in NCAA history.

The Black Knights' victory over the Mountain Hawks was No. 301 in Emmer's 34-year coaching career.

"No. 301 took longer than expected," Emmer said. "No. 300 came back on March 11. That seems like a long time ago. It feels good to win again."

Army's win stopped a three-game losing streak and kept the Black Knights undefeated in Patriot League play as they battle for the conference title and an automatic bid to the 2003 Men's Lacrosse NCAA Tournament.

The late Dick Garber racked up 300 victories on the Minutemen's sideline from 1955-1990. Emmer

equaled that mark with a 10-3 win at Holy Cross last month. Since then, the model for consistency and excellence in the game of lacrosse had watched his charges drop three straight games to Penn, No. 20 Ohio State and No. 14 Hofstra.

Emmer has suffered through just four losing seasons in his 34 years on the job in college lacrosse. He has coached seven Hall of Famers and 86 All-Americans. But perhaps his most telling achievement came last summer when Emmer took a bunch of college all-stars to Australia for the International Lacrosse Federation World Championships in Perth. The underdog American squad returned with a perfect 6-0 record, including two victories over heavily-favored Canada, and a gold medal.

The 2003 edition of Army lacrosse stands at 4-4 with a non-league date at No. 8 Rutgers coming up on Sat. The Black Knights are 2-0 in the Patriot League and tied for first place with No. 17 Bucknell.

Funston Lake closed for fishing due to dry weather, water quality

By Gibran Suleiman
DES Biologist

Dry conditions not only can have negative impacts on farming and landscaping, but also to fish and wildlife.

Due to continued lower than average rainfall for the Fort Riley area, many of the Fort's ponds and lakes have suffered. In particular, Funston Lake has been closed to fishing due to low water levels and deteriorated water quality.

Unless substantial rains come to the area, the oxbow lake will likely suffer a fish kill and go dry this summer.

Funston Lake is one of two naturally occurring lakes on Fort Riley. It is classified as an oxbow lake and contains about 20 surface acres of water when full. An oxbow is a horseshoe shaped bend in a river.

Occasionally, the two ends of the horseshoe become connected,

shutting the rest of the loop off from the flow of the river. That is how oxbow lakes are formed. Unlike most man made lakes, oxbow lakes typically do not have substantial watersheds and can have porous sandy soils. This makes them subject to frequent drying.

Oxbow lakes can become completely re-filled in a very short time. This happens when the adjacent river rises and is able to breach the bank separating the lake and the river channel. Not only does the lake become filled with water, it also is filled with fish species that occur in the river. That is why Funston Lake has always had so many carp, buffalo and gar in it.

The other oxbow on Fort Riley is Marshall Lake, which is just to the west of Marshall Army Airfield. When full, Marshall Lake is nearly 30 acres in size and is by far the largest lake on Fort Riley. However, this lake holds water

only after prolonged rainfall or a flooding event from the nearby Smokey Hill River. Because it dries out so frequently, it is not

On the Wildside: News About Nature



Funston Lake is one of two naturally occurring lakes on Fort Riley. It is classified as an oxbow lake.



ITR

The Information, Ticketing and Registration Office is located in building 6918 (across from the PX). The hours of operation for ITR are Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., and the office is closed on federal holidays.

For further information, call ITR, 239-5614 or 239-4415. Check out the Department of Army Leisure Travel website at www.offdutytravel.com for more great deals on travel.

ITR services and discount attractions tickets are available to active duty military, retirees, National Guard soldiers, reservists, Department of the Army civilians and family members.

Caribbean Celebration

Enjoy the sounds of "Caribb Sounds Steel Band," Caribbean food and vendor booths, May 2 - 4 at the Capital Center Inn, Topeka. Discounted tickets are available through ITR. Make it a weekend get-a-way. The Capital Center Inn is offering special military room rate.

Six Flags, St. Louis

An extreme thrill awaits in 2003 with Xcalibur. Experience the rush of being catapulted 113 feet into the air while spinning 'round and 'round, upside down and back again! Xcalibur combines intense power, speed and

motion for one royalty xtreme excursion! Six flags offers heart pounding thrills, family fun and a 12-acre water park...FREE with theme park admission. A host of water slides, wave pool, kids' area and more create this tropical island paradise! But, that's not all! Six Flags is also home to special events throughout the season, including limited engagement shows, name entertainment concerts, Country Fair, Fright Fest and more! Military discounts are available through ITR.

Worlds of Fun

Worlds of Fun is now open for the season with a "Spring Special" discounted ticket through

ITR. Hurry, special discount ends June 30. Get ready for another season of your favorite fun-filled rides and attractions at Worlds of Fun. As you make your way through 175 acres of excitement and family entertainment, you're sure to find that Worlds of Fun will always leave you screaming for more! Those looking for intense thrills will be sure to head to the world-famous Mamba and Boomerang roller coasters. After going 75 miles-per-hour on one coaster, then riding through another completely backwards. You'll learn the real meaning of, "Open up and say AAAAGH!"

Straight out of the pages of the world-famous comic strip, everybody's favorite beagle and his friends are hosting an exciting collection of family rides and attractions at Camp Snoopy, Worlds of Fun's family play land. Camp Snoopy is over one acre and home to rides and attractions designed especially for families.

Country Stampede

Have you ever attended a party with thousands of friends, national recording artists and four days on non-stop music and fun? Country Stampede is a weekend country music and camping festival June 26-29 at Tuttle Creek State Park, Manhattan. The weekend is fun filled and action packed with great performers like Kenny Chesney, Martina McBride, Chris LeDoux, Sawyer Brown and many more. There will also be fantastic food, colorful crafts and much, much more. Great early bird discounts are available through ITR until May 1.

McCain Auditorium

Canadian Brass will perform at the Kansas State University on April 27, 3 p.m. These are the men who put brass music on the map! With their unbeatable blend of virtuosity, spontaneity and

humor, they brighten the rosters of concert halls, international festivals and orchestra series throughout the world. Tickets are available for half price to military ID cardholders.

Kansas City Union Station

Kansas City Union Station is now featuring "American Originals and Freedom's Journey" through May 4. American Originals showcases documents that represent milestones in America history, including the Louisiana Purchase, Thomas Edison's patent application for the electric lamp and John F. Kenney's handwritten notes for his inaugural address. Union Station is just one of eight stops on this national tour bringing some of the rarely seen treasures of the National Archives to people across the nation. Freedom's Journey traces American history back to its very beginning, using written records, portraits and artifacts to vividly illustrate the revolutionary ideas and actions that laid the foundation for the America you know today. Enjoy numerous other exhibits, the extreme screen and Science City. Discounted Science City and Combo tickets are available through ITR.

Kansas State Baseball

Kansas State Baseball "Make the Connections" now offers special military discounted tickets for the remainder of the season. Grab some friends, take the family for only \$1 per person. Show your military ID at the gate for discounted ticket.

Kansas Cosmosphere and Space Center

They lost it. They found it. The Kansas Cosmosphere and Space

Center restored it. Now it's in your hands. In this interactive exhibit for the whole family, you'll go on a virtual ride with Mercury astronaut Gus Grissom 118 miles into space and then go three miles below the ocean's surface to rescue Liberty Bell 7, untouched for decades. You'll get to pilot a Mercury capsule, take a ride in a centrifuge, operate a deep-sea ROV and much more. See it. Live it. Just don't lose it at the Cosmosphere in Hutchinson through May 26. Discounts are available through ITR.

Celebration City

The top events and entertainment of the 20th Century provide the setting for fun at Silver Dollar City's new nighttime theme park, Celebration City, in Branson, Mo. Celebration City is set to open in May.

The new \$40 million theme park, designed to be the "night" place for families, is America's newest theme park and the largest new park development in North America. Celebration City features themed rides, attractions and activities that include the all-new wooden roller coaster, Ozark Wildcat.

Celebration City will be as different as night and day from Silver Dollar City. One of the most outstanding features will be a spectacular nightly outdoor laser production "Celebrate," which will take guests through time travel of the 20th Century with lasers, water screens, projections and fireworks, all set to vibrant music. This multi-million dollar production is the "night capper" event culminating the day's fun and will be featured prior to park closing each evening. Discount tickets are now available through ITR.

Give ITR a call and they can put together a package, to include hotel, shows and attractions to fit your budget.

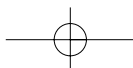
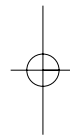
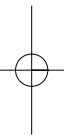


Postfiles

Amy Naukam, spouse of Sgt. Michael Naukam, mortar noncommissioned officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 70th Armor, sheds tears as she writes a note to her husband who is deployed. The Support Our Troops message board is located in front of the Vietnam Memorial at Heritage Park in Junction City.



Cyan Magenta Yellow Black



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